

NO. 418.

the same subject referred to, the original inquiry has been raised, "How is it possible that this paper, if it reached Congress, was concealed?" To this we answer in the language of the "Journal," just mentioned, that "on the return of Captain Pick, he reported that Congress, individually, manifested their entire approbation of the conduct of the Mecklenburg citizens, and seemed at first to lay them officially before the house." In other words, the citizens of Mecklenburg, and of the State generally, were more than one year in advance of the other colonies in a determination to declare independence. At that period Congress had not arrived at sufficient maturity of opinion as to ensure unanimity of action on a question so momentous, and on the determination of which depended the destiny of the nation. There were many distinguished patriots who still ardently entertained hopes of an amicable adjustment of difficulties with the mother country; but as North Carolina pacific measures were one of the question—the royal Governor was expelled from the province, and the people quietly living under a *de facto* government. *Unanimity of opinion* had already developed itself in Congress, but an approach to *unanimity of opinion* was necessary before an appeal to arms—the desperate resort of an injured people. It is then, in all probability, to the "premature" nature of this declaration, and its consequent informal reception by Congress, that we are to attribute the absence of any record of its presentation on the journals of that body. The question has been likewise asked, why it should remain unknown so long afterwards? To this we answer that few copies of such a paper would be prepared at first, and consequently, still fewer would escape the ravages of time. These, through the careless researches of historians, have remained concealed until a few years past. A noble task still devolves on some future historian, of compiling from the musty records in the archives at Raleigh, and from other sources, public and private, a full and complete history of the state. To exemplify still further the ignorance that has hitherto prevailed on the colonial history of the state, we will barely introduce an important transaction of the provincial Congress which convened in Halifax, April 4, 1776. In this Congress, the question of independence was moved, discussed and unanimously approved—a circumstance as long calculated to perpetuate its fame. On the succeeding 12th, a report was submitted, concluding with a resolution empowering their delegation in the continental Congress, to concur with the other colonies in declaring independence. This proceeding, it will be seen, preceded the recommendation of the Virginia convention on the same subject by more than a month, and in the first open and public declaration, by state authority, on record. The resolution was forwarded to the continental Congress, and presented to that body on the 27th of May, 1776. Although this illustrious movement reflects so much honor on the state, and corroborates the opinion that the people were fully ripe for independence, yet, it too, like the Mecklenburg declaration, was doomed to long and silent repose. Within a few years it has been observed among the state papers at Washington City, and has been properly noticed in Mr. Polkin's able and useful work, on "Political and Civil History of the United States." Again, a serious charge has been advanced by Professor Tucker in his "Life of Jefferson," where he says the compiler of the Mecklenburg Declaration borrowed certain parallel phrases from the National Declaration, and interpolated them into that copy. This is a bold charge, but we think neither plausible nor tenable. "We entirely concur in the following introductory remarks of the editor of the 'Review,' above quoted. 'We do not adopt Professor Tucker's theory, that the extant copy of the Mecklenburg Declaration is so far spurious, that the compiler of it borrowed from Mr. Jefferson's draft these parallel phrases, and interpolated them into the Mecklenburg copy.' We are willing to admit the present Mecklenburg copy to be as it was first written, and we entirely dissent from Professor Tucker's account of the changes and interpolations which he has assigned to that copy." There is one circumstance which ought to settle this matter in the satisfaction of the candid inquirer, and ban all idea of interpolation. The Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence as published, and now in the Executive office at North Carolina, was presented to General Davis, a name of distinction and worth in the south, and illustrious in the history of the state. A deeper appreciation of this fact alone brings the Professor's charge, with all its improbability, to the ground. We think these "parallel phrases" may be accounted for in quite a different and far more charitable way. It is simply this: as the grievances of the colonies were of a common nature, resulting from a violation of their just

Charlotte:

Friday, October 8, 1838.

We have an account of a letter from a gentleman of the Charleston Courier, dated at New York, N. Y. Aug. 18, 1838, upon a subject of great importance to the South, the Treasury system.

"The North Carolina treasury, who had been engaged in removing the Charleston from the State, were assembled at Asheville to receive pay for their services; and instead of being paid off in gold and silver, in the constitutional currency, which they had a right to expect from a hard money Government, with the sub-treasury in actual operation, or even in treasury notes they were paid off with drafts on the Manhattan bank of New York, payable in the month of each month. In this office Lister, the United States Paymaster, was wholly blameless. He received the necessary amount in treasury notes, in sums too large for transfer by the way of payment. The North Carolina Bank refused to receive the notes as deposits; to be asked on by the Paymaster, and he was obliged to make his arrangements with a bank in New York. This is a practical consideration on the sub-treasury policy, tending to show its impracticability, and that the Government cannot even pay troops without the aid and agency of banks."

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The Crops.—We learn from the Farmer's Register that, notwithstanding all the injury in Virginia about ruined corn crops, it will not fall short more than a fourth or a third. We learn from the following articles from papers in our own State, that the crops are turning out better than was expected, and we hope it may be the case in this region.

Corn Crops.—It is ascertained now, since Mr. Lee has been gathered, that Corn in this section is considerably better than was anticipated previously. As we predicted—*Charlotte Courier*.

The Crops.—We are glad to learn that a more abundant harvest awaits the farmer than was anticipated a few weeks since. The Corn crop in the upper part of Orange, and generally through the counties of Rockingham, Guilford and Dupont, are said to be very good. We do not apprehend any material scarcity of Corn. The article bears more a very fair price in market.—*Fayetteville Observer*.

The Steam Packet General Western arrived at New York on the 24th ult.—she sailed from Bristol on the afternoon of the 25th, having performed the passage in sixteen days, experiencing very severe weather, which served to test her good quality and the safety of Atlantic steam navigation. She brings the astounding number of 143 cabin passengers. All her berths, 120 in number, were engaged before she arrived. Nineteen days later news have been received by this arrival. Crops are reported to be better than was represented by former arrivals.

The Raleigh Standard publishes a statement from the Portland (Maine) Argus, which says that twelve or fifteen hundred illegal federal votes were cast in that State by men who resided out of the State, and were sent for and their expenses paid, some as far as Philadelphia and Baltimore. Does the Standard really believe the Whigs to be such fools as to send to Philadelphia and Baltimore for voters, when there must have been so many courts at home? The very statement contradicts itself.

Col. Tandy Walker having declined running in opposition to Gen. Waddy Thompson, for Congress in the Greenville District, &c., Gen. J. M. Whitner has been nominated by the sub-treasury men and has consented to become a candidate.

Wendover's gentleman by the name of Earl has lost his life in consequence of the high state of excitement growing out of the election.

The Van Buren papers are parading a list of denouncing Whig sub-treasurers, and advise the Whig papers, as they are very anxious to keep a list of sub-treasurers who owe the Government, to publish them. We do not think it necessary, for honest nature being the same, we are not for giving either party the power of carrying into effect the sub-treasury system.

A Charleston State.—No less than 15 companies of Volunteers in Tennessee, had tendered their services voluntarily to the Governor, under the anticipated call of Gen. Gaines, which has been refused to be granted by the President. Many other companies were organized but had not reported to the Governor.

The Salisbury Watchman says, "we learn that Mr. Harry, the travelling Jeweller, whose adventures with the Marcell men were so graphically described in a number of our papers about six months since, has been again robbed of all his jewelry. We learn that the slight of hand man snared him of his jewelry this time;—twice a year he spent his office to be taken in by sharpers. Trade men's doors with such drawbacks." The citizens of this town no doubt recollect this story of the Marcell men.

The Charleston Courier says: "We are informed from the most authentic source, that Gen. James Hamilton, the agent of the Louisville, Cincinnati and Charleston Rail Road Company, has made an advertisement for a loan of two millions of dollars for this Company, with the highest responsible bonds of John Henry Palmy late Governor of the State of England. This gratifying intelligence places beyond contingency the public subscription for the acquisition of which this Company was formed."

A Sub-Treasury and his Constituents.—It is well known that Mr. Sawyer, of this State, who was elected as an opponent of the Administration, voted for the Sub-Treasury of the late Session of Congress. The following is the vote of his constituents on that question:

	Yeas	Nays	Lo. Abst.	Whig	Dem.
Orange	55	29			
Gaston	51	29			
Perquimans	55	21			
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Chowan	37	104			
Gates	243	95			
Hartford	545	219			
	949	1110			

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